

The Selection Process

Who is responsible for selecting the new statewide achievement test?

Arizona law requires the Arizona State Board of Education (the Board) to adopt and implement a test to measure student achievement.

The Board is following state procurement processes to select a rigorous, cost efficient, statewide assessment aligned with Arizona's educational priorities, that will measure student learning and inform the State's accountability measures (A-F School Letter Grades, Move on When Reading, Principal and Teacher Evaluations).

What is the process for the selection of the statewide assessment?

In late 2013, the Board issued a Request for Information (RFI) to identify existing assessment options that may meet Arizona's needs. The Board received six responses to the RFI.

On March 6, 2014, the Board adopted a statement of [values](#) that was used as the basis for the requirements in the Request for Proposals (RFP) for the selection of the new statewide assessment. Feedback from parents, educators, and business and community leaders was incorporated into the statement of values.

On June 6, 2014, the RFP for the new statewide assessment was released. Multiple responses were received on July 25, 2014.

As required by law, an independent evaluation team of Arizona education stakeholders with knowledge and expertise in the area of student assessment was formed. The evaluation committee is facilitated by the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) procurement office. None of the evaluation committee members are employees of ADE or the Board or are members of the Board. The evaluation committee reviews all proposals and scores them based on how well each meets the requirements listed in the RFP. The evaluation committee will recommend that a contract be awarded to the vendor with the proposal that best addresses the state's requirements as listed in the RFP.

The Board is expected to complete the procurement process and select a new statewide assessment in October 2014. John Huppenthal, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, has recused himself from all Board discussions and decisions related to the selection of the new statewide assessment.

When will the new assessment be in place?

The ADE and Arizona schools will begin preparations for the new assessment as soon as it is selected so that the new assessment can be administered in spring of 2015.

